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FEDERAL CHARGES TARGET READING DRUG DEALERS

READING - United States Attorney Michael L. Levy, Berks County District Attorney John T. Adams, ATF Special Agent-in-Charge Mark Potter, and Reading Police Chief William Heim today announced that a federal grand jury returned six separate indictments¹ charging a total of six defendants, including: Kevin Boston, a/k/a "Bundles," Travis Brown, Dennis M. Burdine, a/k/a "Fats," Manuel Cook, a/k/a "Manny," Robert Hutchinson, and Tafari Richardson, all residents of the city of Reading, Pennsylvania. All but Manuel Cook were arrested this morning at various locations. Cook remains a fugitive. The charges against each defendant, as well as specific information about the defendants and the maximum possible penalties they face, are outlined in the attached chart.

This case is part of the "222 Corridor Anti-Gang Initiative," a federally funded program designed to defeat some of the most violent and pervasive gangs in the country. The "222 Corridor" includes the cities of Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Reading, Lancaster, York, and Harrisburg. This initiative combines federal, state, and local law enforcement resources to attack gang crime and violence throughout the corridor.

These cases were investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives with assistance provided by the Reading Police Department and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sherri A. Stephan.

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¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.